

Message Text

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S/S:RELTZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL OREANDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 141539

STADIS/////////////////////////////////
EXDIS TOSEC 192

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, NL, SA
SUBJECT: SAUDI POSITION RE OIL EMBARGO AGAINST DUTCH
REF: THE HAGUE 3038

FOR HAROLD SAUNDERS WITH THE SECRETARY'S PARTY FROM
ATHERTON

1. EMBASSY THE HAGUE HAS BEEN ASKED BY NETHERLANDS
GOVERNMENT WHETHER THERE WAS ANY DISCUSSION OF SAUDI
POSITION ON OIL EMBARGO AGAINST HOLLAND DURING PRESIDENT'S
VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. TO BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THERE
WAS NOT, AND WE HAVE PREPARED FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO THE
HAGUE ON THAT ASSUMPTION. BEFORE SENDING IT, HOWEVER,
I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD CHECK IT OUT WITH
BRENT SCOWCROFT AND, IF POSSIBLE, WITH THE SECRETARY.

2. QUOTE: SUBJECT: SAUDI POSITION RE OIL EMBARGO AGAINST
DUTCH
REF: THE HAGUE 3038 AND 2917

IN RESPONSE TO DUTCH INQUIRIES, YOU MAY SAY THAT, WHILE
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SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY DID NOT ARISE DURING BRIEF

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO RAISE DUTCH BOYCOTT ISSUE, THIS
HAS BEEN MENTIONED BY US TO SAUDIS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS,
INCLUDING DURING VISIT OF PRINCE FAHD AND OIL MINISTER

YAMANI TO WASHINGTON IN EARLY JUNE (STATE 122597).
WE BELIEVE SAUDIS ARE WELL AWARE OF OUR POSITION.

WE ARE AWARE OF PRESSURES WHICH DUTCH MAY FEEL UNDER
TO ISSUE PRONOUNCEMENT RE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL
OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES AS PRICE OF OBTAINING SAUDI
AGREEMENT WITHIN OAPEC TO LIFTING OF EMBARGO ON
NETHERLANDS. NEVERTHELESS, AND ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT
OF FACT THAT DUTCH ARE ABLE OBTAIN THEIR PETROLEUM
IMPORT NEEDS FROM OTHER SOURCES, WE HOPE DUTCH WILL
CONTINUE TO REFRAIN FROM ISSUING SUCH STATEMENT AT THIS
TIME. SUCH ACTION WOULD ONLY ENCOURAGE ARABS TRY APPLY
PRESSURE TO OTHER CONSUMERS FOR ONE-SIDED INTERPRETATION
OF SC RESOLUTION 242, WOULD STIFFEN HARDLINE ELEMENTS IN
ISRAEL, AND WOULD FURTHER COMPLICATE OUR EFFORTS TO
KEEP BOTH SIDES ENGAGED IN NEGOTIATING FURTHER STEPS
TOWARD PEACE. END QUOTE. SISCO

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